



B. J. Walker, Commissioner

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March 31, 2005

To: Technical Review Committee members

From: Scott A. Uhlich, Secretary

Re: Minutes of the 18th DHR Technical Review Committee meeting

The 18th TRC meeting was held at the Cupola at Plantation Centre, 6324 Peake Road, Macon, GA, on March 28, 2005. Lawton Davis, M.D., Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Members in Attendance: Scott Uhlich, Stan Coppage, George McClure, Larry Chapman, P.E., Bill Fortune, P.E., Rusty Bowden, Bill Durham, Dewayne Tanner and Lawton Davis, M.D.

Guests in Attendance: Jim Free, Carl Thompson, Dan Beardsley, Richard Crumley, Bettie Sleeth, Mark Harden, Todd Jones, Larry West, Mike Fugate and Ben Berteau.

Order of Business:

1. **Call to Order.**
2. **Review of Minutes from the 17th TRC meeting.**
Motion to approve minutes made by George McClure. Minutes unanimously approved.
3. **Election of Officers:** George McClure made a motion to retain the current slate of officers with Lawton Davis as Chairman and Darryl Rowe as Vice-Chairman. Secretary specified in Bylaws as the member representing Environmental Health Section of Department of Human Resources, which is Scott Uhlich. Motion unanimously approved.
4. **New Business:**
 - A. Standards sub-committee report. Larry Chapman asked Scott Uhlich to present the sub-committee report (see enclosed report) on trench spacing. Scott discussed the information provided by Phil Freshley and Larry West, soil scientists, to the sub-committee. The soil scientists determined a trench spacing of 7-foot on center would provide adequate absorption and treatment of effluent for soils with a percolation rate of less than 75 minutes per inch. Bill Durham raised a question about the ability of equipment to install a system at this reduced trench spacing. George McClure indicated he felt existing equipment was available or would be made available by the industry to meet this need. Scott Uhlich stated that a homebuilder/installer, present at the sub-committee meeting, indicated to the sub-committee that the current rubber tire backhoe was capable of installing trenches

at the 7-foot spacing. Also, manufacturers present at the sub-committee meeting indicated that other types of trenching equipment were available that could be utilized. Scott Uhlich stated that the rule would not prohibit greater trench spacing but was a minimum spacing requirement. George McClure made a motion to accept the sub-committees recommendation to establish a minimum absorption trench spacing of 7-foot on center for soils that have a percolation rate of less than 75 minutes per inch. Motion unanimously approved.

- B. Provisional approval request by Infiltrator Systems, Inc. for the Quick4 High Capacity Chamber. Carl Thompson reviewed, with the committee, product information submitted and distributed prior to the meeting. Mr. Thompson requested that the committee grant a provisional approval for a 50% absorption trench length reduction as compared to a conventional 36-inch wide conventional gravel absorption trench. This provisional approval is similar to the provisional approvals granted by the committee to the PSA 16-inch BioDiffusor chamber, Hancor High Capacity chamber and similar Cultec chamber. Stan Coppage asked Scott Uhlich for a recommendation from the Department. Scott Uhlich stated that the Department did not object to a provisional approval provided Infiltrator Systems, Inc provided satisfactory AASHTO H-10 vehicle load test results and that the company understood the provisional approval was only until the Department adopts and implements rules for non-conventional on-site sewage management systems. Carl Thompson indicated that Infiltrator Systems, Inc understood the provisional approval was contingent on DHR acceptance of the structural test results and that the products provisional approval was subject to review and approval by the TRC once rules for non-conventional on-site sewage management systems were adopted and implemented by DHR. Rusty Bowden made a motion to provisional approve the Infiltrator systems, Inc. Quick4 High Capacity chamber at a 50% reduction contingent upon DHR acceptance of satisfactory structural test results (AASHTO H-10) and that the provisional approval was only granted until such time that the Department adopts and implements rules for non-conventional on site sewage management systems. Motion unanimously approved.
- C. Provisional approval request for the Infiltrator Quick4 Standard Chamber. Carl Thompson reviewed with the committee product information submitted and distributed prior to the meeting. Mr. Thompson discussed the product dimensions, sidewall design and study on sidewall throughput rates. He discussed the storage volume measurements conducted at Clemson University. Mr. Thompson request a provisional approval based on the six part standard recommended to the Department of Human Resources, currently being considered for adoption by the Department. Mr. Thompson indicated that Infiltrator's application of the six part standard by their engineers indicated a 33% reduction in trench length, as compared to a 36-inch wide gravel absorption trench, was recommended. However, Mr. Thompson indicated he was aware the Department's review and application of the six part standard recommended a 25% reduction. Mr. Thompson indicated that Infiltrator Systems, Inc. was willing to accept the Department's recommendation provided it was a provisional approval and that a review by the Technical Review Committee would be made after the Department adopted and implemented rules for non-conventional on-site sewage

management systems. Scott Uhlich was asked by the committee for a recommendation. Mr. Uhlich indicated that the Department recommended a provisional approval at a 25% reduction subject to a review and approval by the TRC at such time the Department adopts and implements rules for non-conventional on-site sewage management systems. Rusty Bowden made a motion to accept the Department's recommendation for a provisional approval at a 25% reduction in absorption trench length as compared to a conventional 36-inch wide gravel absorption trench subject to review and approval by the TRC at such time that the Department adopts and implements rules for non-conventional on-site sewage management systems. Motion unanimously approved.

5. **Other Business:** Bill Durham asked about the process for product approval once the Department adopts rules for non-conventional systems. Scott Uhlich stated that he had been discussing this issue with the Department's Attorneys. The Department Attorneys have recommended the following process to the TRC. The request for product approval will come to the Department. The Department will schedule a meeting between the manufacturer and the standards sub-committee. The standards sub-committee will make a recommendation to the full TRC. The TRC will meet and consider the sub-committee recommendation. The TRC's recommendation regarding product approvals will be sent to the Department. Mr. Uhlich recommended the TRC maintain the same standard sub-committee membership with Larry Chapman as the sub-committee chairman. Stan Coppage made a motion that the standards sub-committee members remain the same with Larry Chapman as chairman. Motion unanimously approved.
Scott Uhlich also discussed with the committee the need for an impartial review of the products. Members with a financial interest in a product must reclude themselves from the process. Bill Durham asked how that was defined. George McClure indicated that if you gained financially from the decision you must reclude yourself. Scott Uhlich indicated he would ask the attorney for advice on this issue.
6. **Next meeting date:** No specific date set. Standards sub-committee in May? Next TRC in June?
7. **Motion to adjourn** meeting made by Stan Coppage. Motion unanimously approved.